



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SPRINGFIELD BUSINESS OWNER INDICTED FOR FRAUD BY CREDIT CARDS

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Springfield businessman was indicted by a federal grand jury today in a fraud scheme in which he used unauthorized credit cards.

Terry M. Heitman, 44, of Springfield, Mo., was charged in a two-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury meeting in Springfield. **Heitman** operates The Classy Dame women's dress shop in Springfield.

Today's indictment alleges that **Heitman** obtained more than \$1,000 by using unauthorized credit cards in Greene County on two separate occasions – between February 26, 1999 and February 17, 2000 and between August 17, 2000 and June 28, 2001.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

The case was investigated by the U.S. Secret Service.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow